

Captain Richard Colton House
On east side of Main Street, near
north end of village
East Northfield
Franklin County
Massachusetts

HABS No. MASS-660

HABS
MASS
6-NORTHE

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

CAPTAIN RICHARD COLTON HOUSE

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Location: East Northfield, Franklin County, Massachusetts.
(On East side of Main Street, near north end of village.)

Present Owner: Mrs. Priscilla Colton Carroll

Present Occupant: Mrs. Carroll

Present Use: Residence

Brief Statement of Significance: The house of an early 19th century wheelwright-blacksmith.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Captain Richard Colton. The property still remains in the family.
2. Date of Erection: 1828. (Note: the foundation belongs to an earlier house, of undetermined date - before 1812).
3. Original plans, construction, etc.: None known to be in existence.

- B. Sources of Information: Leaflet, "Open Houses and Museums in Northfield, Mass.," 1958. Interview with (Mrs.) Priscilla Colton Carroll, August 1959.

Prepared by Harley J. McKee, Architect
National Park Service - August 23, 1960

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: A nicely proportioned house, with elliptical entrance and greatly developed rear wing complex.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Foundations: Stone, stuccoed. Low.
2. Over-all dimensions: Two-story, rectangular house, with rear wing.

3. Wall construction: Load bearing brick; common bond. Gable ends smooth boarding. Greater part of rear wing of wood frame, with clapboards and smooth boarding - horizontal and vertical.
4. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: Large stone steps at main entrance. Porch with wood posts and brackets in southeast angle between wing and main section. Segmental arcaded porch adjoining it to east.
5. Chimneys: Brick. Two in main section, on rear wall at mid points of principal rooms. One on ridge of rear wing, at rear wall of brick portion.
6. Openings
 - a. Doorways and Doors: Entrance door with elliptical brick arch of one rowlock course. Side lights and louvred fan; wood trim inside masonry opening.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Double hung sash, 12/12. Flat brick arch over opening. Louvred shutters. Stone sills.
7. Roof
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roofs.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Wooden box cornice on main section, gable ends treated as pediments.
- C. Technical Description of Interior - Floor Plans (by floor): Central hall - stairway, one principal room each side, in main section.
- D. Site
 1. General setting and orientation: House faces west to the street.
 2. Enclosures (fences, etc.): Not enclosed.
 3. Outbuildings: This function performed by part of rear wing, attached to house.
 4. Landscaping, gardens, etc.: Simple, informal.

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